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In re the Application of:

| | | |
|---|---|--------------------------|
| John Falk Kelley |) | |
| Serial Number: 10/001,744 |) | Group: 2172 |
| Docket Number: AUS920010748US1 |) | Examiner: Cam Y T Truong |
| Filed on: 10/31/2001 |) | |
| For: "Context Management Super Tools and Filter/Sort Model for Aggregated Display Webpages" |) | |

RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANT APPEAL BRIEF

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the Notice of Non-Compliant Appeal Brief dated 01/17/2006, please receive our revised Appeal Brief. Please substitute this Appeal Brief for the one on file.

Respectfully,

Robert Frantz

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| and Filter/Sort Model for Aggregated |) | |
| Display Webpages" |) | |

APPEAL BRIEF

(Revised)

Real Party in Interest

The subject patent application is owned by International Business Machines Corporation of Armonk, NY.

Related Appeals and Interferences

None.

Status of Claims

On June 24, 2005, appellant appealed from the final rejections of claims 1 - 12. Independent claims 1 and 7 amended on November 10, 2005, while claims 2 - 6, and 8 - 12 remain in their originally filed states. Claims 1 - 12 are reproduced in the Appendix to this Appeal Brief.

Claims 13 - 15 are non-elected claims responsive to a restriction requirement made by the examiner in the Office Action of 8/10/2004, and thus stand withdrawn from this application. Please note that in the Office Action of March 24, 2005, Examiner has noted that applicant provided the election with traverse, but alleged that no reasoning was provided by applicant for the traverse. This is an inaccurate reflection of the prosecution history, as applicant elected without traverse.

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Status of Amendments

The amendment filed on November 10, 2004, has been entered.

Summary of the Invention

A user of the present invention is allowed to automatically collect, filter, sort, and aggregate information from a variety of different sources (e.g. "heterogenous" sources) using a set of scripts and modules, using an Object-Action Navigation paradigm by selecting an object in the Context Pane, resulting in updated display results in the Content Pane. This allows a user to use a OAN interface on a variety of different data types via the automatic employ of the scripts and modules. We have provided an example of a commodities, investment, or stock trader's turret console, where information from different sources such as streaming data, web pages, stock quote systems, etc., is aggregated into the Content Pane, and controlled by the user's actions in the Context Pane.

The invention provides information to a user through an Object-Action Navigation paradigm (Fig. 9 #96, #904, #98; para. [0034] pg. 10 line 12) by displaying in a web page a Context Pane (#32 in Figs. 3, 4, 5; #36 in Figs. 6, 7, and 8; para. [0027] pg. 7 line 14) having one or more selectable objects of interest to a user, and displaying in the same web page a plurality of selectable heterogeneous actions associated with an object and responsive to user selection of an associated object.

When the user selects one of the selectable actions, an action script is executed to generate a set of results (para. [0028] pg. 7 line 16), which are then displayed in the same said web page in a Content Pane (para. [0028] pg. 7 line 17), which is separate from the Context Pane. The Content Pane shows an aggregation results (para. [0025] pg. 7 line 2, para. [0041] pg. 13 line 19) from a plurality of semi-independent (para. [0028]) heterogeneous information modules (para. [0025] pg. 7 line 2, para. [0041] pg. 13 line 19), heterogeneous transactional modules (para. [0036] pg. 11 line 5), or both, with the information being filtered and sorted according to said user's interest as indicated by a most recent selection in said Context Pane.

More specifically, independent Claim 1 specifies a method of:

- (a) displaying in a web page a Context Pane having one or more selectable objects of interest to a user (#32 in Figs. 3, 4, 5; #36 in Figs. 6, 7, and 8; para. [0027] pg. 7

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line 14);

- (b) displaying in said web page a plurality of selectable heterogeneous actions associated with an object and responsive to user selection of an associated object (paras. [0047-0048] pg. 15 lines 8 - 19);
- (c) executing an action script in response to user selection of a selectable action, said action script generating a set of results (para. [0028] pg. 7 line 16); and
- (d) displaying in said web page to said user said action script results in a Content Pane (para. [0028] pg. 7 line 17), said Content Pane containing an aggregation results from a plurality of semi-independent (para. [0028] pg. 7) heterogeneous information modules (para. [0025] pg. 7 line 2, para. [0041] pg. 13 line 19), heterogeneous transactional modules (para. [0036] pg. 11 line 5), or both, said information being filtered and sorted (para. [0042] pg. 14 lines 1 - 5, para. [0045] lines 15 - 20] according to said user's interest as indicated by a most recent selection in said Context Pane (para. [0057] pg 18 lines 4 - 14).

Likewise, independent Claim 7 specifies computer-readable media in which software has been encoded to:

- (a) display in a web page a context pane having one or more selectable objects of interest to a user (#32 in Figs. 3, 4, 5; #36 in Figs. 6, 7, and 8; para. [0027] pg. 7 line 14);
- (b) display in said web page a plurality of selectable heterogeneous actions associated with an object and responsive to user selection of an associated object (paras. [0047-0048] pg. 15 lines 8 - 19);
- (c) execute an action script in response to user selection of a selectable action, said action script generating a set of results (para. [0028] pg. 7 line 16); and
- (d) display in said web page to said user said action script results in a Content Pane (para. [0028] pg. 7 line 17), said Content Pane containing an aggregation results from a plurality (para. [0028]) of semi-independent heterogeneous information modules (para. [0025] pg. 7 line 2, para. [0041] pg. 13 line 19), semi-independent heterogeneous transactional modules (para. [0036] pg. 11 line 5), or both, said information being filtered and sorted (para. [0042] pg. 14 lines 1 - 5, para. [0045]

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lines 15 - 20] according to said user's interest as indicated by a most recent selection in said Context Pane (para. [0057] pg 18 lines 4 - 14).

Grounds for Rejection For Which Review is Sought

Claims 1 - 4, 6, 7 - 10, and 12 were finally rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,452,609 to Katinsky, *et al.*, (hereinafter "Katinsky") in view of U.S. Patent 5,913,214 to Madnick, *et al.* (hereinafter "Madnick"). Please note that although the Office Action only states Katinsky in view of Madnick in this set of rejections (pg. 2, lines 17 - 19 of the Action), it is applicant's belief that the Examiner intended to state this as Katinsky in view of Madnick in further view of U.S. Patent 5,806,077 to Wecker (hereinafter "Wecker"), as Wecker was employed in the rationale on pg. 4, lines 12 - 17, of the Office Action. Therefore, this Appeal Brief responds to the rejections with the assumption that they were over Katinsky in view of Madnick in further view of Wecker (hereinafter "Katinsky-Madnick-Wecker").

Claims 5 and 11 were finally rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Katinsky-Madnick-Wecker in further view of U.S. Patent 6,452,609 to Nikolovska (hereinafter "Nikolovska").

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Katinsky in view of Madnick in further view of Wecker

Claims 1 - 4, 6, 7 - 10, and 12

Katinsky's invention provides *homogeneous* actions for *homogeneous* objects – all *actions* are "play" or "present" actions, and all *objects* are "media objects" (Katinsky, col. 3, lines 50 - 54, emphasis added by Appellant):

The media streams may be a variety of media types, such as text, audio, images, animation, video, executable code, or any combination of media types. The Internet site is a media-type neutral system, i.e., it treats different media types, such as audio and video, in a similar fashion.

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(Katinsky, col. 6, lines 1 - 19, emphasis added by Appellant):

As shown in FIG. 7, the object player 16 is used to play the currently selected media object from the play list 50 in the sequencer 14. The object player includes an image display window 80 and a control panel 82. The object player 16 can use any program that can be embedded in a web page that presents media objects. Examples of streaming media programs that can be embedded are QuickTime.TM., RealMedia.TM., and Microsoft Media Player.TM.. Streaming media players, such as the illustrated RealMedia Player, include the control panel features, such as a stop button 100, a pause/play button 102, a previous button 104 and a next button 106. a vertical-slider control 108 provides audio volume control, and a horizontal slider control 110 provides fast forward/rewind control and indicates the amount of the stream that has been and remains to be played. A display panel 112 presents the current status of the media object, e.g., playing or paused, and a clock 114 shows the total duration of the multimedia object and the elapsed time.

Katinsky fails to disclose retrieving information such as historical stock trading data, nor such processing data, such as graphing the historical trends of stock data.

Further, Katinsky's display does not use a traditional web page as we have claimed, but instead uses a "pageless" design (col. 3, lines 42 - 48, emphasis added by Appellant):

... In addition, the Internet site is "pageless", in that media streams are delivered to the user without the user having to navigate to different pages. ...

without using traditional text-based web pages (Katinsky col. 3 line 63 - col. 4 line 6, emphasis added by Appellant):

The pageless Internet site is an inversion of conventional web site design. In conventional web site design the media object is the last link in a long chain of pages and links. The setting, context, meaning, and relevance of the media object are established in hypertext, and the media

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object is an adornment for the hypertext. In contrast, In the pageless Internet site, the media object is the starting point. The pageless Internet site is media-oriented, as opposed to being text-oriented with media annotations. In short, the principle of organization of web page 10 is the relationship between media objects, rather than the relationship between pages.

Finally, Katinksy does not *aggregate* information into a simultaneous display of different informational items as we have claimed, but instead sequences the playing of media objects (Katinksy col. 3 lines 45 - 44 - 47, col. 4 line 9, col. 5 line 3).

In the rationale for the final rejections of claims 1 and 7, it was proposed that "it would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art ... to apply Madnick's (and presumably Wecker's?) teaching of aggregating results from different resources to Katinsky's system in order to retrieve data from semi-structured data source corresponding to user's request and further to provide the most relevance results corresponding to user's request" (pg. 4, lines 18 - 22).

A *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been properly established, as this rationale is in error because Katinsky in view of Madnick, and alternatively Katinsky in view of Madnick in further view of Wecker, would not have been obvious to combine because Katinsky teaches of "pageless" systems for handling of "sequenced media object presentation", while Madnick teaches a page-oriented design (not pageless) for handling semi-structured data (silent regarding media objects, audio, streaming video, etc.), and Wecker teaches of a page-oriented design (not pageless) for displaying hyperlinks (but not executing scripts, adopting an OAN model, etc.).

No citation is provided where in the cited art it is suggested or taught that Katinsky's pageless media-only player system could be modified to be a page-based, semi-structured data hyperlink display. In order to establish a case of obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the Examiner must cite where motivation to make such a combination or modification is taught in the cited references, even if the references "could" have been modified. *In re Fritch*, 972 F.2d 1260, 23 USPQ2d 1780 (Fed. Cir. 1992).

In the rationale provided by the Examiner, by citing the "user's preferences", it appears that Examiner considers motivation to be found due to increase convenience to the user, but this is controverted by the apparent teaching away of Katinsky to using a page-based design and the

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undesirability, not just a design trade-off choice, according to Katinsky of such page-based, conventional web sites, which points towards non-obviousness. *In re Rudko*, Civ. App. No. 98-1505 (Fed. Cir. May 14, 1999) (unpublished). Winner Int'l Royalty Corp. V. Wang, 202 F3d 1340, 53 USPQ2d 1580 (Fed. Cir.), *cert. denied*, 530 U.S. 1238 (2000).

Appellant submits that given the apparent teaching away and teaching of lack of desirability of the primary reference, and the number of secondary references needed to arrive at the proposed combination, obviousness has not been properly established and does not exist. Therefore, Appellant requests reversal of the rejections of and allowance of claims 1 - 4, 6, 7 - 10, and 12.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Katinsky in view of Madnick in further view of Wecker in further view of Nikolovska

Claims 5 and 11

Claim 5 is dependent on Claim 1, and Claim 11 is dependent on Claim 7. For the same reasons argued in the foregoing paragraphs, the proposed combination of Katinsky, Madnick, Wecker, and additionally Nikolovska has not been properly established as a combination and modification which would have been obvious to one ordinarily skilled in the art at the time the invention was made for lack of suggestion or motivation in the cited art to make the four-way combination and modification.

For these reasons, Appellant requests reversal of the rejections of and allowance of claims 5 and 11.

Respectfully,



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Appendix A
Clean Form of Amended Claims

Claim 1 (previously amended):

A method for providing information to a user through an Object-Action Navigation paradigm comprising the steps of:

displaying in a web page a Context Pane having one or more selectable objects of interest to a user;

displaying in said web page a plurality of selectable heterogeneous actions associated with an object and responsive to user selection of an associated object;

executing an action script in response to user selection of a selectable action, said action script generating a set of results; and

displaying in said web page to said user said action script results in a Content Pane, said Content Pane containing an aggregation results from a plurality of semi-independent heterogeneous information modules, heterogeneous transactional modules, or both, said information being filtered and sorted according to said user's interest as indicated by a most recent selection in said Context Pane.

Claim 2 (original)

The method of Claim 1 wherein said step of executing an action script comprises performing a search for information related to said selected object.

Claim 3 (original):

The method of Claim 1 wherein said step of executing an action script comprises retrieving data or information from a database.

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Claim 4 (original):

The method of Claim 1 wherein said step of executing an action script comprises the step of retrieving current data or information from a datafeed.

Claim 5 (original):

The method of Claim 1 wherein said step of displaying said results in a content pane further comprises filtering and sorting said results prior to display.

Claim 6 (original):

The method of Claim 1 wherein said step of displaying said results in a content pane comprises organizing said content pane into a plurality of selectable workspaces.

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Page 10 of 11**Claim 7 (previously amended):**

A computer readable medium encoded with software for providing information to a user through an Object-Action Navigation paradigm, said software causing a user computer to perform the steps of:

display in a web page a context pane having one or more selectable objects of interest to a user;

display in said web page a plurality of selectable heterogeneous actions associated with an object and responsive to user selection of an associated object;

execute an action script in response to user selection of a selectable action, said action script generating a set of results; and

display in said web page to said user said action script results in a Content Pane, said Content Pane containing an aggregation results from a plurality of semi-independent heterogeneous information modules, semi-independent heterogeneous transactional modules, or both, said information being filtered and sorted according to said user's interest as indicated by a most recent selection in said Context Pane.

Claim 8 (original):

The computer readable medium of Claim 7 wherein said software for executing an action script comprises software for performing a search for information related to said selected object.

Claim 9 (original):

The computer readable medium of Claim 7 wherein said software for executing an action script comprises software for retrieving data or information from a database.

Claim 10 (original):

The computer readable medium of Claim 7 wherein said software for executing an action script comprises software for retrieving current data or information from a datafeed.

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Page 11 of 11**Claim 11 (original):**

The computer readable medium of Claim 7 wherein said software for displaying said results in a content pane further comprises software for filtering and sorting said results prior to display.

Claim 12 (original):

The computer readable medium of Claim 7 wherein said software for displaying said results in a content pane comprises software for organizing said content pane into a plurality of selectable workspaces.

Claims 13 - 15 (previously withdrawn).